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DOCUMENTS

OUR EARLIEST PRINTED CHURCH HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

From time to time the desire has been expressed by those interested in American Church history to see that very rare little volume (12mo., pp. 138), *The Laity's Directory to the Church Service, for the Year of Our Lord MDCCCXXII* (1822), reprinted in facsimile. So far as is known today, there are not many copies of this scarce book in existence, and without it the collection of *Catholic Directories*, which is so highly prized in Catholic libraries, must always be incomplete. The copy in our possession is a gift from the late Cardinal Farley. In a preliminary *Notice* we are told that "*The Laity's Directory* is published for the first time in the United States of America. It is intended to accompany the Missal, with a view to facilitate the use of the same." Its contents are as follows: (1) a *Calendar of Saints for the Year* (pp. 1-13); (2) a *New Year's Gift for the Year 1822*—"the production of the late unfortunate Rev. W. B. Kirwan, who, a short time afterwards, abandoned his church, and apostatized from the faith, in the year 1787." The discourse covers pages 21 to 23, and is an excellent example of pulpit oratory. It was originally delivered at the Chapel of the Neapolitan Ambassador, on March 20, 1786. "It is thought that the recollection of this Sermon," writes the editor of the Directory, the Rev. John Power, "was what always kept him in awe after his apostasy, and prevented him imitating those Priests, who, when they abandoned their Church, immediately set about reviling Catholicity in proof of their sincerity." (3) *Practical Instructions for the Sundays, Feasts, and Different Times of the Year* (pp. 34-71). (4) *A Brief Account of the Establishment of Episcopacy in the United States* (pp. 72 to 80). (5) *Present State of Religion in the Respective Diocesses* (pp. 81 to 121). (6) *A Short Account, and Present State of the Society of Jesus in the United States* (pp. 122 to 126). (7) *Obituaries* (Archbishop Carroll, Rev. Francis Nagot, Founder of St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, Archbishop Neale, Father Matignon and others), pp. 127 to 176. (8) *Conclusion: a beautiful Eulogic Apostrophe to the Church, by the justly celebrated Fenelon* (pp. 137-138).

The *Brief Account* and the *Present State of Religion*, the earliest printed historical sketches of the Church in the United States, are reproduced here exactly as they are in the little volume.

I

A Brief Account of the Establishment of Episcopacy in the United States

THE Roman Catholic religion was introduced into this country with the first settlers of Maryland in the reign of Charles I, who granted that province to Lord Baltimore, a catholic nobleman, as a refuge for persons of his religion, from the security of the penal laws, which that unfortunate monarch wanted either the power or the fortitude to restrain. A number of Catholic gentlemen, and others, emigrated from England and Ireland, in the hope of enjoying that repose in the new settlement, which was denied them in their native country. The unrelenting spirit of persecution pursued them over the Atlantic. It deprived them of the just fruits of their labor; it debarred them from every post of trust and profit in the colony which

they had settled; it compelled them to maintain Protestant ministers; and, finally, it enforced against them many of the British penal laws, from the cruelty of which they had fled. B. F. Andrew White, an English Jesuit of eminent piety and zeal, accompanied the first colonists in 1632; and, from that date till the period of the revolution, the American Catholics in Maryland and Virginia, were constantly served by Jesuit missionaries successively sent from England. About the year 1720 the Rev. F. Grayton, and others, introduced Catholicity into Pennsylvania, where in a short time it received a remarkable increase. Since the peace of 1783, and the settlement of the American constitution, penal laws are no longer known, and Catholics enjoy an equal participation of the rights of human nature with their neighbours, of every other religious denomination. The very term of *Toleration* is exploded; because it imports a power in one predominant sect, to indulge that religious liberty to others, which all claim as an inherent right. Catholic clergymen of various orders and nations, have resorted to America; and they everywhere find an ample vineyard to cultivate. In this state of religious freedom, the clergymen judged it expedient to give stability and dignity to the Catholic religion by the establishment of a regular hierarchy: and they therefore petitioned from the Pope, the creation of an Episcopal see, and the appointment of a Diocesan bishop. The Pope, applauding their zeal, graciously admitted their request, and allowed them to elect their first bishop. The Rev. Dr. John Carroll, who had been for some years the superior of the mission, was the object of their choice; and this gentleman was accordingly appointed First Bishop of Baltimore.

The following is an extract from the Bull of Pius VI, constituting the above mentioned see. After the preamble, the Bull thus continues:

Wherefore it having reached our ears, that in the flourishing commonwealth of the Thirteen American States, many faithful Christians, united in communion with the Chair of Peter, in which the centre of Catholic unity is fixed, and governed in their spiritual concerns by their own priest's having care of souls, earnestly desire, that a bishop may be appointed over them to exercise the functions of Episcopal order, to feed them more largely with the food of salutary doctrine, and to guard more carefully that portion of the Catholic flock; we willingly embrace this opportunity, which the grace of Almighty God has afforded us, to provide those distant regions with the comfort and ministry of a Catholic bishop. And that this might be effected more successfully, and according to the rules of the sacred canons, we commission our venerable brethren, the cardinals of the holy Roman Church, directors of the congregation de propaganda fide, to manage this business with the greatest care, and to make a report to us. It was, therefore, appointed by their decree, approved by us, and published the 12th day of July of the last year, that the priests who lawfully exercise the sacred ministry, and have care of souls, in the United States of America, should be empowered to advise together and to determine, first, in what town the Episcopal see ought to be erected; and next, who of the aforesaid priests appeared the most worthy and proper to be promoted to this important charge, whom we, for this first time only, and by special grace, permitted the said priests to elect and to present to this Apostolical see. In obedience to this decree, the aforesaid priests, exercising the cure of souls in the United States of America, unanimously agreed, that a bishop, with ordinary jurisdiction, ought to be established in the town of Baltimore: because this town, situated in Maryland, which province the greater part of the priests and of the faithful inhabit, appeared the most conveniently placed for inter-

course with the other States, and because from this province, Catholic religion and faith had been propagated into the others. And, at the time appointed for the election, they being assembled together, the sacrifice of Holy Mass being celebrated, and the grace and assistance of the Holy Ghost being implored, the votes of all present were taken, and of twenty-six priests who were assembled, twenty-four gave their votes for our beloved son John Carroll, whom they judged the most proper to support the burden of Episcopacy; and sent an authentic instrument of the whole transaction to the aforesaid congregation of cardinals. Now all things being naturely weighed and considered in this congregation, it was easily agreed, that the interests and increase of the Catholic religion, would be greatly promoted, if an Episcopal see were erected at Baltimore, and the said John Carroll was appointed the bishop of it. We therefore, (to whom this opinion has been reported by our beloved son Cardinal Antonelli, prefect of the said congregation, having nothing more at heart, than to insure success to whatever tends to the propagation of true religion, and the honour and increase of the Catholic Church) by the plenitude of our apostolical power, and by the tenor of these presents, do establish and erect the aforesaid town of Baltimore into an Episcopal see forever, for one bishop to be chosen by us in all future vacancies; and we, therefore, by the apostolical authority aforesaid, do allow, grant and permit, to the bishop of the said city and to his successors in all future times, to exercise Episcopal power and jurisdiction, and to hold and enjoy all and every right and privilege of order and jurisdiction, and of every other Episcopal function, which bishops constituted in other places are empowered to hold and enjoy in their respective churches, cities and diocesses, by right, custom, or other means, by general privileges, graces, indults, and Episcopal dispensations, together with all pre-eminencies, honours, immunities, graces and favours, which other cathedral churches, by right or custom, or in any other sort, have, hold and enjoy. We, moreover, decree and declare the said Episcopal see thus created, to be subject or suffragan to no metropolitan right or jurisdiction, but to be forever subject immediately to us, and to our successors, the Roman Pontiffs, and to this Apostolical see. And till another opportunity shall be presented to us, of establishing other Catholic bishops in the United States of America, and till other dispositions shall be made by this Apostolical see, we declare by our Apostolical authority, all the faithful of it, living in Catholic communion, as well ecclesiastics as seculars, and all the clergy and people dwelling in the aforesaid United States of America, though hitherto they may have been subject to other bishops of other diocesses, to be henceforward subject to the Bishop of Baltimore in all future times; and to this bishop, and to his successors, we impart power to curb and check, without appeal, all persons who may contradict or oppose their orders, to visit personally, or by deputies, all Catholic churches, to remove abuses, to correct the manners of the faithful: and to perform all things which other bishops in their respective diocesses are accustomed to do and perform, saving in all things our own authority, and that of this Apostolical see. And wherever by special grant, and for the time only, we have allowed the priests, exercising the care of souls in the United States of America, to elect a person to be appointed bishop by us, and almost all their votes having been given to our beloved son John Carroll, priest; we being otherwise certified of his faith, prudence, piety and zeal, for as much, or by our mandate, he hath during the late years, directed the spiritual government of souls, do therefore, by the plenitude of our authority, declare, create, appoint

and constitute the said John Carroll, Bishop and Pastor of the said Church of Baltimore, granting to him the faculty of receiving the rite of consecration from any Catholic bishop holding communion with the apostolical see, assisted by two ecclesiastics, vested with some dignity, in case that two bishops cannot be had, first having taken the usual oath, according to the Roman Pontifical.

Upon receipt of this Bull from Rome, Dr. Carroll immediately repaired to England, where his person and merits were already well known, and presented himself for consecration to the Right Rev'd, Dr. Charles Walmesley, Bishop of Rama, senior Vicar Apostolic of the Catholic religion in that kingdom. By the invitation of Thomas Weld, Esq., the consecration of the new bishop was performed during a solemn High Mass, in the elegant Chapel of Lulworth Castle, on Sunday the 15th day of August, 1790, being the feast of the Assumption of the B. V. Mary: and the munificence of that gentleman omitted no circumstance, which could possibly add dignity to so venerable a ceremony. The two prelates were attended by their respective assistant priests and acolytes, according to the rubric of the Roman Pontifical. The richness of their vestments, the music of the choir, the multitude of wax-lights, and the ornaments of the altar concurred to increase the splendor of the solemnity, which made a lasting impression upon every beholder.

Dr. Carroll, after his consecration by Bishop Walmesley, immediately returned to the United States, and entered upon the important duties of his high office. It is unnecessary to state in this brief account, how faithfully, and with how abundant increase to his flock he discharged his pastoral duties. Suffice it to say, that in the short period of twenty years after the establishment of the first Episcopal see of Baltimore, the present venerable Pontiff (Pius VII.) who, in the midst of tribulations most trying to human nature, but equally glorious in his divine master, so worthily fills the Pontifical chair, thought proper to erect Baltimore into a Metropolitan or Archiepiscopal See, and to establish four new suffragan diocesses, namely: Boston, New-York, Philadelphia, and Bardstown in Kentucky. The first pastors appointed for the new sees were: for Boston, the Right Rev'd. John Cheverus; for New-York, the Right Rev'd. Dr. Luke Concannon, who unfortunately died at Naples a short time after his consecration, on the point of embarking for the United States; for Philadelphia, the Right Rev'd. John Egan; for Bardstown, (Kentucky) the Right Rev'd. Benedict Joseph Flaget, characters (Dr. Concannon excepted, who, when appointed, resided at Rome, and had never been in this country) already long known to, and revered by the Catholics of the United States, and whose promotion was considered less as a reward of their Apostolic virtues, than as a common blessing upon the flocks committed to their care.

The consecration of these highly respectable gentlemen took place in Baltimore, the Most Reverend Archbishop Dr. John Carroll being consecrator; Dr. Egan was consecrated at St. Peter's, on Sunday the 28th of October, 1810; Dr. Cheverus, at the same church on All-Saint's Day; and Dr. Flaget, at St. Patrick's, Fell's-Point, on the 4th of November. The ceremony was conducted with great pomp and solemnity, amidst an immense concourse of people of every denomination of Christians.

It will not be improper here to add, that in consequence of the advanced age of the Most Rev'd. Archbishop Carroll previously to the establishment of the above-mentioned bishoprics, the great extent of his diocess (comprising at the time the whole of the United States) and the immense load of duty devolving upon him, the Holy See was pleased to give him a coadjutor. This was the Rev'd. Dr. Leonard Neale, who was chosen to succeed him in the diocess of Baltimore, and consecrated Bishop of Gortyna, on the 7th day of December, 1800.

New-Orleans had already been erected into a bishopric by Pius VI. But on the death of the worthy prelate who governed that diocese, under the Spanish administration, and, on its accession to the United States, the Holy See was pleased to appoint to it an administrator-general. Dr. William Dubourg, a clergyman of distinguished talents and eminent piety, a member of the learned congregation of St. Sulpice, and President of St. Mary's College at Baltimore, was the gentleman named to fill that office. He shortly after repaired to Europe, to make the wants of his extensive mission known, when he was immediately acknowledged titular of the see he administered. He was consecrated on Sunday, September 24th, in the church of St. Louis at Rome, by Cardinal Joseph Doria, sub-dean of the Sacred College, assisted by the Bishop of St. Malo, the French ambassador, and M. Pereira, Bishop of Terracina.

In looking back to the period of the first introduction of Catholicity into this country, under Lord Baltimore in the settlement of Maryland, and contrasting the state of the Church then, with what it now is, the handful of individuals then composing the flock of Jesus Christ, confined to a small province, with the immense numbers now spread over every part of this union, we are at once struck at the astonishing rapidity of the increase; we cannot but see in it the protecting hand of the Almighty, who has been pleased to bless in so extraordinary a manner the labours of his servants; and from the judicious arrangements, combined with other operating causes made by the Holy See for establishing new dioceses in the different states, in proportion to the diffusion of Catholicity among them, we are led to hope for a still more abundant harvest, a still greater increase of faithful: and that *the Lord will continue to add daily to his society such as shall be saved.*

In the year 1820, His present Holiness was pleased again to erect two additional Episcopal Sees, also suffragan to the Archbishopric of Baltimore, viz., the See of Richmond and that of Charleston. The Rev. Dr. Patrick Kelly, formerly professor in the college near Kilkenny (Ireland) was consecrated: For the latter, Dr. John England, late pastor of the Catholic Church in Bandon, near Cork. The consecration of Dr. Kelly took place in Kilkenny, on the 24th August, 1820; that of Dr. England, in Cork, on the 21st day of September, in the same year. Both of these learned and highly respectable gentlemen arrived shortly after, each in his respective diocese, and the most happy results are expected from their zeal, their talents and their piety.

The following is a list of the *Arch-bishops and Bishops* of the United States, since the establishment of Episcopacy in the same:

Archbishops

The Most Rev. Dr. John Carroll, The Most Rev. Dr. Leonard Neal, The Most Rev. Dr. Ambrose Marechal.	}	of Baltimore.
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Bishops.

The Rt. Rev. Dr. John Cheverus, of Boston. The Rt. Rev. Dr. Luke Concannon, The Rt. Rev. Dr. John Conolly, The Rt. Rev. Dr. John Egan, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Henry Conwell,	}	of New York. of Philadelphia.
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The Rt. Rev. Dr. Benedict Flaget, of Bardstown, Kentucky.
 The Rt. Rev. Dr. William Dubourg, of Louisiana.
 The Rt. Rev. Dr. Patrick Kelly, of Richmond, Virginia.
 The Rt. Rev. Dr. John England of Charleston.
 The Rt. Rev. Dr. John David, Bishop *in partibus*, and Coadjutor to the Rt.
 Rev. Dr. Flaget, Bishop of Kentucky.

II

**The Present State of Religion in the Respective Dioceses
ARCHBISHOPRIC OF BALTIMORE**

THE Archbishopric of Baltimore comprises the whole state of Maryland, with the District of Columbia. In this See there are two well-organized and respectable Catholic colleges; having each the privilege of Universities: the Jesuit's, at Georgetown, District of Columbia, and the Sulpician's, at Baltimore. There are besides, two regular and well conducted Theological Seminaries; viz., That at Baltimore, under the direction of the congregation of St. Sulpice, for the instruction of philosophical and theological students; and the one at Washington, District of Columbia, under the direction of the Jesuits. In addition to the philosophical and theological course of this latter institution, children are admitted as day scholars, in adjoining apartments, to be there instructed in the rudiments of the languages, as well as in polite literature, under experienced and capable masters.

Besides the above, there is in this See, at Emmitsburg, Maryland, a new and flourishing establishment upon the plan of a college, and affording many advantages, under the direction of the Rev. Messrs. Dubois and Bruté, two gentlemen of talents and learning. Particulars of this institution, as well as of the two above mentioned colleges, will be found in this Directory.

The Noviciate, or school of introduction into the *Society of Jesus*, is for the present established at the White Marsh, Prince George's County, Maryland.

There are two religious female institutions for the education of young ladies: one at George Town, District of Columbia, under the direction of the *Ladies of the Visitation*; the other at Emmitsburg, under the direction of the *Daughters of Charity*. Particulars hereafter.

There is besides, near Portobacco (Maryland) a respectable house of female Carmelites. This is the oldest establishment of a religious kind in the United States of America. It was established but a short period after the American revolution. Their number is always complete; a manifest proof of the order and regularity observed, and the happiness enjoyed by these truly respectable ladies, who have voluntarily secluded themselves from society, to enjoy in retirement, that peace which the world cannot give, and which is a foretaste of the happiness of Heaven.

CATHOLIC CHURCHES AND CHARITY SCHOOLS

BALTIMORE is the Archiepiscopal residence. The City contains four neat and handsome churches: The Cathedral, St. Patrick's, St. John's, and St. Mary's.

The Cathedral, or Catholic Metropolitan church, which is by far the largest and handsomest building of the kind in the United States, was consecrated last year, on the Feast of the Ascension. This splendid edifice was designed and commenced by the late Archbishop Carroll, about thirteen or fourteen years ago. The late Mr. Latrobe was the architect. The style is Roman, and the plan represents a Roman cross. Its extreme length (exclusive of the intended portico) is 166 feet, and the breadth across the transepts, is 115 feet. Upon the intersection of the body of the cross and its arms, arises the dome; its external form is octangular, 75 feet in diameter, rising 17 feet 6 inches above the walls. The circular dome rises upon 5 steps, 32 feet 6 inches above the octagan, and 116 above the surface of the ground. On the west end, are two towers; they are intended to contain belfreys, and to be carried 120 feet above the surface of the ground. The altar and tabernacle are of foreign

marble, extremely well executed. On one side of the altar stands the Archiepiscopal throne, and on the other, the pulpit. The organ and choir are in the right arm of the cross; the whole of the interior has the most imposing appearance, and inspires the idea of what the house of God ought to be.

In Washington City there are two spacious and handsome churches: In Georgetown, adjacent, also two neat churches; In the city of Alexandria, one; In Fredericktown, one: In Emittsburg, also one; besides twenty-eight dispersed throughout the country parts; some of which reflect honour on the piety and zeal of the Catholics, by whom they were erected. The number of Catholics in this See is very considerable. They are mostly served by missionaries, whose duties are very arduous, but whose attention and zeal in the discharge of them, are sufficiently manifest in the regularity and piety of those committed to their care.

In Baltimore there are two regularly established charity schools; one attached to the Cathedral; the other to St. Patrick's on Fell's-Point, in which the children are carefully instructed in the various branches of useful knowledge, and at a proper age are apprenticed to such trades as they themselves may incline to, or are supposed to be most advantageous to their future prospects in life. They are generally supported by private donations, and stated collections in the different churches.

In George Town, District of Columbia, there are also two; one attached to Trinity Church, where children of both sexes are educated; the other is exclusively for female orphans, and is under the immediate direction of the Ladies of the Visitation, who piously take upon themselves the care, both of their education and support.

[Then follow descriptions and catalogues of *Georgetown College* (pp. 84-85), *St. Mary's College, Baltimore* (pp. 86-87), *St. Mary's Seminary* (p. 87), *Mount St. Mary's Seminary "near Emmetsburg, Frederick County, State of Maryland"* (pp. 88-92), "*Monastery of the Visitation of St. Mary*" (pp. 93-94), and the *Sisterhood of St. Joseph, "near Emittsburg,"* (pp. 95-101).]

BISHOPRIC OF BOSTON.

RT. REV. DR. CHEVERUS, *Bishop*

THIS Diocese comprehends all the New-England States, including Maine. The residence of the Bishop is in Boston. This city contains at present two neat churches, viz. the Cathedral of the *Holy Cross*, and St. Augustine's. This latter church has been just erected in South-Boston. The Cathedral was erected nearly twenty years ago, and stands a distinguished monument of the strenuous exertions, the indefatigable zeal, and the fervent piety of the present Bishop and his late ever to be regretted Vicar General, the Rev. Dr. Matignon. Before the arrival of these two worthy gentlemen in the town of Boston, Catholicity was scarcely known there, and still less throughout the New-England States. A few scattered families, made up of all that belonged to their charge; and these were principally of the poorer classes—the prejudices of the people derived from their Puritanic Fathers, were generally strong against them—the spirit which had dictated the most obnoxious laws was yet alive; and every attempt was made, even after the Revolutionary War, by the enemies of the Catholic Church, to keep it so, by misrepresenting her tenets, denouncing her worship as idolatry, and ridiculing her ceremonies. In short, every circumstance seemed to indicate but little prospect of any thing like a permanent and successful ministry. These obstacles, however, did not discourage our truly apostolic missionaries. The Catholic Clergy have no families to support—their wants are few and

easily supplied—their object after their own sanctification is the salvation of their neighbour. They thirst not after the riches of this world; they are only anxious for those of heaven—they are aware upon entering into the vineyard of the Lord, that though *the burden or heat of the day* may be *great*—there is one who will support them under it—and who, in due season, will reward their exertions. It was in this frame of mind that Dr. Matignon, and shortly after Dr. Cheverus repaired to Boston. They entered upon the work marked out to them, not from choice; but because it was marked out to them by the hand of their then Superior, Dr. Carroll, Bishop of Baltimore. They viewed it as the hand of God directing them to what he would have them do. It is unnecessary to state here the opposition and trials they had to encounter from the side of enemies to the true faith, on entering upon the discharge of their duties; nor the hardships, the scantiness of their provision forced them to endure. Suffice it to say, that by their exemplary piety, their care of an unwearied attention upon the poor, the sick and the infirm, the faithful distribution of the word of God thrice on Sundays and holidays, regular catechistical instruction, the clear and masterly exposition of the real doctrines of the Catholic Church, joined to their amiable manners and gentlemanly deportment, they failed not, in a short time, to win the hearts and gain the affections of their dissenting brethren—prejudices soon began to disappear, inquiries after truth to be made, numbers successively to join their little society; and at this present time, the Church of Boston forms a very prominent feature in the Catholic body of the United States. O, truly fortunate revolution in France! every true Catholic in this country may exclaim, which has brought us so many edifying and enlightened instructors! There is no part of the United States, that cannot bear witness to their zeal, and should not be eternally grateful. Where is the youth of a liberal education, sincere piety and correct morals, who has not been formed by some one or more of the clergy of France, emigrants to this country? Where is the College or Catholic establishment that has not been, or is not now under their direction? They have taught our youth, they have instructed and enlightened our people, they have directed thousands in the way to heaven, they have enlarged and extended the kingdom of Jesus Christ on this side of the Atlantic, they have sown and watered a seed, which will hereafter spring up and yield an amazing increase—to say all in one word, by their edifying example, the sweet odour of their piety and unwearied exertions in every section of the Union for these twenty-five years back, they have contributed, principally contributed, to render the church in this country what it now is.

There are in this diocese four other churches, viz: one at Salem, which is finished in a very superior style; one at New-Bedford, and two in the state of Maine, at Damascotti and at Whitefield. In this diocese, as in that of Kentucky, there is a tribe of Indians, professing the Catholic religion, whose orderly conduct and sincere piety astonish, as well as edify all who travel through their settlement.

A religious house, whose rule embraces the education of young ladies, being greatly wanted in Boston, the Bishop has lately made choice of the order of the Ursulines to superintend that department; and accordingly has invited into his diocese several ladies of the above-mentioned order, and established them near his Cathedral. The Convent being yet in its infancy, consists at present only of one Prioress, and six sisters, with two novices. The system of education embraced by these pious ladies, is every way calculated to suit this country. In addition to the useful branches of literature, they instruct those committed to their charge, in every polite accomplishment.

BISHOPRIC OF NEW-YORK.

RT. REV'D DR. JOHN CONNOLLY, *Bishop*.

THE bishopric of New-York, comprehends the whole state of New-York, together with the northern parts of Jersey. The residence of the Bishop is in New-York. This city contains two Catholic Churches, viz: the Cathedral (St. Patrick's) and St. Peters.

The Cathedral is a superb edifice, 120 feet long by 80 feet wide, finished in a superior manner in the inside, and is capable of holding 6000 people. The exterior, as to the ornamental part, is yet unfinished. The style of the building is Gothic; and from its great extent and solidity, must have cost upwards of 90,000 dollars. No church in the United States, (the Cathedral in Baltimore excepted) can compare with it.

St. Peter's, which is the first Catholic Church erected in New-York, is a neat, convenient, and handsome building. It was erected about 20 years ago, at which time the number of Catholics did not exceed three hundred. At present they number upwards of twenty thousand. They are mostly natives of Ireland and France.

There are in this city two extensive Catholic charity schools, conducted upon a judicious plan, and supported by the funds of the state, and partly by moneys raised twice a year by the two congregations. Independently of these two establishments, the Emittsburg sisters of charity have a branch here of their pious institution, exclusively for the benefit of female orphan children, whom they board, clothe and educate. Their house fronts the side of the Cathedral, and is one of the most healthy situations in New-York.

In Albany there is likewise a Catholic church—a neat and compact building. It was erected about 14 years ago, and is attended by a growing congregation. The clergyman officiating in this church, visits occasionally Troy, Lansingburgh, Johnstown and Schenectady.

In Utica, a large and beautiful church has lately been erected and consecrated, which reflects great honour on the Catholics residing there. Their number is not great; neither are they generally wealthy—their zeal however *for the house of God, and the place where his glory dwelleth*, has enabled them to surmount every obstacle to the exercise of their piety. From the multitude flocking annually to this flourishing village no doubt can be entertained but this will shortly become one of the most numerous, and respectable congregations in the diocess.

In Rome, (15 miles distant from Utica,) there is as yet no Catholic church, but a beautiful lot is reserved, by the liberality of Dominick Lynch, Esq. on which one will be erected, as soon as the number of Catholics settling there will render its erection necessary. The situation of this little town is healthy and beautiful.

In Auburn, an agreeable little town, still farther distant in the state there is likewise a Catholic church, recently erected.

In New-Jersey, in the town of Patterson, there is also one, which is regularly attended by a clergyman.

In Carthage, near the Black River, a small and neat church has been lately erected.

The following are the Catholic clergymen officiating in this diocess:

NEW-YORK

Rt. Rev'd. Dr. John Connolly,	} <i>St. Patrick's Cathedral.</i>
Rev. Michael O'Gorman,	
Rev'd. Charles French,	} <i>St. Peter's.</i>
Rev'd. John Power,	
Rev'd. Mr. Bulger, <i>Patterson.</i>	

Rev'd. Michael Carroll, *Albany and vicinity.*

Rev'd. John Farnan, *Utica and vicinity.*

Rev'd. Patrick Kelly, *Auburn, Rochester, and other districts in the Western parts of this state.*

Rev'd. Philip Larissy *attends regularly at Staten-Island, and different other congregations along the Hudson River.*

BISHOPRIC OF PHILADELPHIA.

RT. REV'D. DR. HENRY CONWELL, *Bishop.*

THE diocess of Philadelphia comprehends the two states of Pennsylvania and Delaware, with the southern part of Jersey. The residence of the Bishop is in Philadelphia. This city contains four Catholic churches, viz: the Cathedral, (St. Mary's,) Holy Trinity, St. Augustine's and St. Joseph's,* all with the exception of the last mentioned, spacious and handsomely finished. Small as is the church of St. Joseph, it was, when built, sufficiently large to contain all the Catholics then residing in Philadelphia. It was erected by the Jesuits many years ago, and is still belonging to that society. The church of St. Augustine is a splendid edifice—it was built by the late Dr. Carr, and is the property of the Augustinian order, of which he was a member. A large and respectable congregation attend it. Holy Trinity church is likewise a very spacious and neat building. The congregation attached to it, consist principally of Germans, who erected it with the view of having the word of God delivered to them in their mother tongue. Since that period, the English language is become predominant, and shortly will be the only one understood.

In this diocess are eleven other churches, some of which are solid and well-constructed buildings, viz: *In Pennsylvania:* the church in Lancaster, attended by the Rev'd. John Holland; that at Conewago, by the Rev'd. Messrs. De Barth, Larhue, Divin, Byrne and Brett; at Reading, Berks county, by the Rev'd. G. Shenfelter; at Carlisle, Cumberland county, by the Rev'd. G. Hogan; at Chambersburgh, Franklin county, by the Rev'd. Mr. Kearns; at Loretto, Cambria county, by the Rev'd. Mr. Galitsin; at Greenburgh, by the Rev'd. Mr. McGirr; at Pittsburgh, by the Rev'd. Mr. McGuire; at Cochinhopen, Montgomery county, by the Rev'd. Paul Kohlman.

In Delaware: The church at Wilmington, St. Patrick's, attended by the Rev. P. Kenny. *In New Jersey:* The church at Trenton, attended by the Rev. Mr. Doyle.

There is likewise a branch of the Emmitsburg Sisters of Charity established in the city of Philadelphia, consisting of several pious and well-informed ladies, who superintend the education of orphan children. Too much cannot be said in praise of an institution, so commendable in its object, and so highly deserving of the community at large. Since their establishment in this city, the most happy results have attended their labours, and efforts are making to render their usefulness still more extensive.

There is besides a Charity School connected with St. Joseph's which is conducted upon the usual plan of such establishments.

Catholicity was introduced into Pennsylvania as early as the year 1728, by the Rev. F. Grayton and others; since which time it has gradually extended; and it is pleasing to reflect that at the present day, the professors of it in Philadelphia alone, make up nearly one-fifth of the population of that city. Heaven grant that peace, good-will and harmony, may once more prevail among them; and that the same efforts be used to continue the work of God which were employed in its first establishment.

**St. Joseph's.*—This church has been lately repaired and considerably enlarged. It is now not greatly inferior to any one of the other three—has a beautiful organ with a select choir. The Bishop, for the present, officiates in it.

BISHOPRIC OF BARDSTOWN (KENTUCKY)

RT. REV. DR. BENEDICT FLAGET, *Bishop*.

THE Bishopric of Bardstown is of prodigious extent. It comprehends the whole state of Kentucky; of Tennessee; of Ohio; of Indiana and Illinois, with the Michigan and North West Territories. A few years back all these countries were little better than a wilderness, with scarcely a Catholic to be seen in them. They are now one of the most populous and flourishing portions of Catholic America. The residence of the Bishop is at Bardstown, where a new and elegant Cathedral has been lately erected, which, in point of materials, extent and beauty of design, is inferior to but few in the United States. There are besides this 16 or 18 other churches, large and small, erected at proper distances, to meet the conveniences of the faithful; of which the following are the principal, viz: The church of the Dominicans, at Bornhem; the church of Lexington, those of Louisville and Danville; the church of St. Mary, in a village containing 100 families; also the little church of St. Clare, which assembles 40 families in a congregation of its name; the church of St. Bernard, with a considerable congregation; another not far distant from it, with 30 or 40 families; the church of St. Rumold, with a congregation of 20 families; the Oratory of the Sacred Heart; the church of St. Barbe; that of St. Charles, which has undergone considerable alterations; and the church of St. Anthony. These last-mentioned churches are all of wood, consequently not very durable; but are decent and well kept up.

There are also, in this Diocese, some remnants of Indian tribes professing the Catholic faith; the same having been carried among them by the Jesuits before their suppression. Amongst these children of the forest, who evince a great attachment to this Holy faith, is the tribe surnamed *the Wolf*. They are occasionally attended by one or other of the Missionaries of Kentucky, who instruct and baptise their children, and administer to them the Holy Sacrament of the Altar. As a flourishing Seminary has been lately established at Bardstown exclusively for the education of Catholic clergymen, it is greatly to be hoped that the time is not far distant when the light of the Gospel will be extended far into the wilds of this immense Diocese, inhabited by these unhappy people, and which will also raise up a sufficient body of able and pious ecclesiastics, to supply the wants of the more settled parts. Hitherto, from the great scarcity of labourers, the vineyard of the Lord has been but partially cultivated. There are yet parts of this country, in which many Catholics have settled (chiefly on the borders of the great lakes) who have not yet seen the face of a Catholic clergyman.

The states of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, are daily adding more and more to the Church. In each of these several large congregations of Catholics are found. They are chiefly French who extended themselves through parts of this country as early as the seventeenth century. Vincennes, in Indiana, was formerly a station of the Jesuits, whence they made excursions among the savage tribes.

Besides the Seminary at Bardstown, under the immediate direction of Dr. Flaget; the Dominicans have likewise established a college in Kentucky, which is greatly frequented, and promises to be of great benefit to the Diocese. Dr. Wilson is at the present time president of it, a gentleman of known piety and talents.

There is also an academy at Frankford, which is confided to a Catholic Professor, a Mr. O'Hara. It is attended by 172 scholars and has three tutors, besides the principal.

Four religious houses of females of different orders have been established in this growing Catholic country, since the erection of the See at Bardstown, viz: The Daughters of Charity, which is a branch of the Mother House at Emittsburg; *The little con-*

gregation of the Friends of Mary beneath the Cross of Jesus; the order of the Apostolines, lately established at Rome by his Holiness; and the Cloister of Loretto, in the enclosure of which is found the Cottage. All are in flourishing condition, and exhibit in their members striking models of that sincere disinterested piety, which characterizes the true disciples of Jesus.

BISHOPRIC OF LOUISIANA.

RT. REV. DR. WILLIAM DUBOURG, *Bishop*.
Consecrated in Rome, Sept. 24, 1815.

THIS Diocess includes the whole ancient Louisiana, as sold by France to the United States, together with the Floridas. The Episcopal See was erected in 1796, when the country yet belonged to the crown of Spain.

Ancient Louisiana is now divided into the state of that name, whose capital is *New-Orleans*; the state of Missouri, the chief town of which is *St. Louis*, and the territory of Arcansas. The extent of the Diocess has induced the Bishop to divide his residence between *New-Orleans* and *St. Louis*, in each of which he has his Episcopal chair. In the probable event of his soon obtaining a coadjutor, the two Prelates would then settle, one in each of these two extremities.

The Clerical Seminary, founded about two years ago, in the state of Missouri, Perry county, in a settlement called *Barrens*. It is held by the priests of the Mission of St. Vincent of Paul, under the superiority of the Rev. Joseph Rosati. The Novitiate of that venerable congregation is at present composed of six or seven members. Several priests of the same holy institute are disseminated in parishes through the Diocess. The Seminary begins to flourish, and promises a succession of well informed and pious Missionaries. Among the priests of the Seminary, one is devoted to the neighbouring missions as far as *New Madrid*.

St. Louis has a Catholic college under the inspection of the Bishop and several Clergymen, either priests or juniors, the priests are the Rev. M. M. F. Neal, Leo Deys, and A. B. Anduze, who, besides their collegiate duties, perform also the service of the Cathedral, and attend to other parochial functions, both in *St. Louis* and neighbouring settlements.

The officiating clergymen in this upper part of the Diocess, besides the above named, are the Rev. Henry Pratte, in *St. Genevieve*, a thriving town, sixty miles south of *St. Louis*; the Rev. P. Desmoulins, *Carkaskaes*, the Rev. N. Olivier, *Prairie du Rochu*; the Rev. N. Savine, *Cahokias*; the Rev. Charles De'Lacroix, *St. Ferdinand*; who also attends the infant missions on the Missouri: The Rev. Joseph Aquaroni, P. of the M. for *St. Charles*, *Dardenni*, and *Portage des Scioux*.

There are churches in all the above places, the most remarkable of which are the New Cathedral in *St. Louis*, a brick building 130 feet long, not yet completely finished, adorned with valuable paintings, organ, and furniture; the brick church now building in *St. Ferdinand*, on a very handsome plan, and that of *St. Genevieve*.

The state of Missouri is also blessed with the institution of the Religious Ladies of the *Sacred heart of Jesus*, a precious colony arrived from France in 1818, established in the village of *St. Ferdinand*, 15 miles north of *St. Louis*, where they have set up a Novitiate, now composed of five novices and several postulants; a thriving seminary, the resort of the daughters of most of the wealthy inhabitants of this and adjacent States, and a day school for girls of the poorer class.

The state of Louisiana has eighteen ecclesiastical parishes, viz. *New Orleans*, *St. Bernard*, *St. Charles*, *St. John the Baptist*, *St. James*, *St. Michael*, *Ascension*, *Assumption*, *St. Joseph*, *St. Gabriel* at *Iberville*, *Baton Rouge*, *Point Coupee*, *St.*

Martin, and St. Mary, (Attacappas), St. Landry, St. Charles Borromeus (Opeloussas) Avoyelles, Natchitoches, to which is to be added Natchez, in the state of Mississippi.

In New-Orleans, there is a convent of Ursuline Nuns, a long standing, wealthy, and most recommendable establishment, consisting of fifteen or sixteen professed nuns and a number of novices and postulants. Their female seminary, which is always full, has, for upwards of sixty years, continued to render to religion in that quarter, the most essential services. They have a public church served by the Rev. first vic. gen. of the Diocess, and a chaplain.

The Cathedral in this populous city, is a large brick pile, adorned with three steeples, and richly furnished; its revenues are considerable, and its situation in the centre of a magnificent square, commanding a full view of the Mississippi, is one of the finest in the world. It is served by the Rev. Father Anthony de Sedella, assisted, by the Rev. Messrs. A. Moni, N. Mariani, and Audr. Ferrari, P. of the M.

There is also, in the vicinity of New-Orleans, a newly established and flourishing college, under the tutorship of the Rev. B. Martial, vic. general Evremt. Harrissart, and N. Bertrand, assisted by young gentlemen attached to the church; and in the city, a numerous Lancastrian School, kept by the Rev. Michael Portier.

The ladies of the Sacred Heart are at this moment forming a second establishment for the education of young ladies, at Opeloussas, upon a liberal foundation, for which that section of country is wholly indebted to the pious munificence of Mrs. Charles Smith, pursuant to the plans of her late venerable husband, the founder and endower of the parish church of St. Charles Borromeus, contiguous to the convent.

The Floridas being just ceded to the United States, a priest is to be immediately sent to Mobile, as the precursor of several others shortly expected.

The Arcansas have one. Religion in that quarter has hitherto laboured under difficulties, which it is hoped will gradually be removed.

The number of priests and juniors in holy orders in this Diocess, is at present fifty, and will probably before the expiration of the year, be carried to upwards of sixty.

The mission to the poor Indians along the borders of the Missouri, is now the great object of the bishop's solicitude: He entertains a hope, that under the protection of God, that a large field will soon be opened to the industrious exertions of fervent missionaries. The prayers of the pious are requested for an undertaking at once so arduous and of so vast an importance.

BISHOPRIC OF RICHMOND (VIRGINIA.)

RT. REV. DR. PATRICK KELLY, Bishop

THIS Diocess comprehends the whole state of Virginia. The residence of the Bishop is in Norfolk. There is but one Catholic church in this borough. It was built about twelve or fourteen years ago, stands in a healthy situation, and is a tolerably large and compact building.

There are at present six other Catholic churches in the Diocess, viz., one in Portsmouth; one in Richmond; one in Martinsburg; one in Winchester; one in Bath; one in Shepherds Town. These four last mentioned churches, were formerly attended by clergymen residing in Maryland—but in future, they will be served by priests whose residence will probably be in Winchester.

There are no Catholic schools, properly so called, yet established; Though many of the school masters throughout the Diocess are Roman Catholics.

The Apostolical letters dismembering the Diocess of Baltimore, erecting the See of Richmond, comprising the whole state of Virginia, and appointing Dr. Kelly its

first Bishop, bear date the 11th July, 1820. This gentleman received episcopal consecration in the parish chapel of St. Mary, in the city of Kilkenny, and Diocese of Ossory, Ireland, on the 24th of August following, and the feast of St. Bartholomew, at the hands of the most Rev. Dr. Troy, Archbishop of Dublin, assisted by the most Rev. Dr. Murray, Coadjutor of Dublin, and the Rt. Rev. Dr. Marum, Bishop of Ossory. He arrived in Norfolk on the 19th of January, 1821, and the Sunday following published his authority in the usual manner.

BISHOPRIC OF CHARLESTON.

RT. REV. DR. JOHN ENGLAND, Bishop

THIS Diocese comprehends the three states of North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia. The residence of the Bishop is in Charleston. This city contains at present but one Catholic Church; but the foundation of a cathedral is immediately to be laid, which, when completed, will equal in size and beauty almost any in the United States. It is to be erected in a central part of the city, on a beautiful square lot, formerly known by the name of *the Vauxhall Gardens*; which is already purchased for the purpose. The present church, which stands in Hazel street, is a neat building, though much too small for the number of Catholics residing in the city, and the accommodations of those of other denominations who would wish to frequent it.

In North Carolina there is no Catholic church, as yet, but several are also immediately to be erected, for the accommodation of those Catholics who are largely scattered through the state, viz., one at Newbern; one at Wilmington and one at Washington.

In the state of South Carolina, one is likewise to be immediately erected at Columbia. This city is the seat of the legislature, and contains a number of Catholics who are every day increasing. And another in Chester county, where there is a new settlement of individuals professing our religion.

In Georgia there are three Catholic churches, viz., one in Savannah; one at Augusta and one 40 miles from the last mentioned town, at a place called Locust Grove. This last was erected by a colony from Maryland, who have been some time settled in this neighbourhood.

Charleston was erected into a Diocese by his present Holiness, the 12th July 1820, and Dr. John England appointed its first Bishop. He was consecrated on the 21st September, the same year, in the church of St. Finbar, in the city of Cork, (Ireland,) by the Rt. Rev. Dr. Murphy, Bishop of Cork, assisted by the Bishop of Ossory and Dr. Kelly, Bishop of Richmond; the Archbishop of Mitylena and the Bishops of Cloyne and Ross, Ardfert, Aghadoc and of Limerick being present.

There are yet no Catholic schools in any part of this newly created Diocese: but great exertions are making to diffuse a correct knowledge of the principles of the Catholic church throughout the different states, by the establishment of societies, which have for their object the dissemination of books of piety and instruction.

[There follows here the Constitution of the Church in Charleston (pp. 116-120).]

THE FLORIDAS.

THESE two provinces of *East and West Florida*, are by the late treaty with Spain, annexed to the United States. Hitherto they were considered by Ecclesiastical authority, as forming a part of the Bishopric of Louisiana, and of course subject to the Bishop of that diocese, the Rt. Rev'd. Dr. William Dubourg. It is probable however, they will soon form a separate Diocese.

There are two Catholic Churches in the Floridas, viz., one at St. Augustine, and one at Pensacola.—The church at St. Augustine is a superb edifice, 140 feet long, and proportionally wide: it was built by the King of Spain, and is in every point of view a truly majestic and handsome building.

The population of St. Augustine, is about three thousand five hundred, three thousand of whom are Catholics.

The church at Pensacola is a small but substantial building. It is at present under the superintendence of the Rev. Dr. Coleman, the Catholic Clergyman of that Parish. The congregation consists also, of nearly the whole population of the town.
